

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 06097 041122Z

10
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
----- 119304
O 041045Z SEP 76 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2924
AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 6097

EXDIS

DEPT PLEASE PASS DIA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR US EG IS
SUBJ: ISRAELI ACTION AGAINST AMOCO OPERATIONS IN GULF OF SUEZ

REF: TEL AVIV 6095

1. DATT AND ARMA WERE CALLED TO MEETING SEPT 4, 1100 HOURS,
WITH CHIEF OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE, HIS DEPUTY AND DEPUTY
CHIEF OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IDF. PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS EXPLAINED
AS A CONTINUING EFFORT TO KEEP USG INFORMED OF EVENTS IN GULF
OF SUEZ. ALL BRIEFING WAS DONE BY CHIEF OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE
WHO CONTACTED OPERATIONS CENTER DURING BRIEFING FOR MOST CURRENT
INFORMATION. THIS REPORT IS THEREFORE CONSIDERED CURRENT AS
OF THAT TIME.

2. THROUGHOUT DAY OF SEPT 3, ISRAELI NAVY (IN) NOTED UNUSUAL
ACTIVITIES ON EGYPTIAN SIDE OF RED SEA. SOMETIME BEFORE
MIDNIGHT, NOTED MOVEMENT NORTH FROM EGYPTIAN RED SEA NAVAL
PORT AL GHUTDAQAH RPT AL GHUTDAQAH 27 15N; 33 40E
OF ONE OSA CLASS BOAT AND ONE ISHERSHEN CLASS BOAT. IN THEN
CONCLUDED THAT DRILLING RIG MARINER WOULD AGAIN BE MOVING TO
DRILLING POSITION. AT THAT TIME (EXACT TIM NOT ESTABLISHED)
IN DISPATCHED ON MISSILE BOAT FROM THEIR RED SEA BASE WHICH
PARALLELED MOVEMENT OF EGYPTIAN BOATS NORTH IN GULF. IN MISSILE
BOAT LINKED UP WITH FOUR (4) IN PATROL BOATS (DABUR CLASS)
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEL AV 06097 041122Z

VICINITY OF AT TUR.

3. AT 0623 HOURS SEPT 4, MARINER, TOWED BY TWO TUGS, WAS OBSERVED EAST OF MEDIAN LINE IN SAME POSITION AS SHE HAD BEEN NIGHT OF 31 AUGUST-1 SEPT. (DRILLING SITE 304.1). CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE STATED THAT ONE DABUR APPROACHED MARINER IN SAME MANNER AS HAD OCCURRED N 31 AUGUST AND ASKED MARINER TO MOVE 1500 METERS WEST. MARINER IMMEDIATELY STARTED TO COMPLY.

4. WHILE MARINER WAS MOVING WEST, RANGES BETWEEN IN PATROL CRAFT AND EGYPTIAN OSA AND ISHERSHEN CLOSED DOWN TO SEVERAL HUNDRED METERS. AT THIS TIME, A SHORT BURST OF NOT MORE THAN FOUR (4) ROUNDS (NOT FUTHER IDENTIFIED) WERE FIRED BY ONE OF THE EGYPTIAN SHIPS. THIS FIRE WAS DESCRIBED AS QUOTE UNAIED UNQUOTE. IN BELIEVES THIS WAS ACCIDENTIAL DISCHARGE WHICH OCCURRED WHEN EGYPTIANS WENT TO ACTION STATIONS AND LOADED WEAPONS. NO REPEAT NO FIRE WAS RETURNED BY IN.

5. MARINER CROSSED MEDIAN LINE TO WEST AT 0655 HOURS SEPT 4. AT THAT TIME LINE-UP WAS MARINER WEST OF LINE, TWO EGYPTIAN SHIPS WEST OF LINE BUT EAST OF MARINER, FOUR IN DABOUR PATROL CRAFT EAST OF LINE AND ONE IN MISSILE BOAT EAST OF DABOURS.

6. SOMETIME AFTER 1000 HOURS, MARINER APPEARED TO HEAD WEST IN DIRECTION OF SHORE ANCHORAGE ON WEST SIDE OF GULF.

7. AT 1115 HOURS, THE TWO EGYPTIAN BOATS WERE ALSO MOVING WEST AND LEAVING THE SCENE. THEY APPARENTLY WERE HEADED TOWARDS SAME ANCHORAGE AS MARINER. (RAS SHUKHAYR)

8. ALTHOUGH HE COULD NOT CONFIRM AS HE WAS NOT IN OPERATIONS CENTER IN PREVIOUS HOUR, CHIEF OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE STATED THAT HE BELIEVES ORDER WILL NOW BE GIVEN TO IN BOATS TO RETURN TO ANCHORAGE AT AT TUR.

9. IN ALSO NOTED TWO EGYPTIAN ROCKET LAUNCHING SHIPS MOVING TOWARD AREA DURING NIGHT. HOWEVER, THEY NEVER ARRIVED IN THE INCIDENT VICINTIY DESPITE THERE HAVING BEEN ENOUGH TIME TO HAVE DONE SO. IN BELIEVES THEY HAVE GONE TO SHORE ANCHORAGE.

10. NO HELICOPTERS WERE SEEN IN AREA BY IN.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TEL AV 06097 041122Z

11. EXACT WORDING USED BY IN CAPTAIN WHEN TALKING TO MARINER WAS NOT KNOWN BY IN CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD ESTABLISH WHAT WORDS WERE USED AND WILL ADVISE US.
TOON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED DIA.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HARASSMENT, EXPLORATORY DRILLING, OFFSHORE OIL FIELDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TELAV06097
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760336-0528
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760988/aaaacxzd.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 TEL AVIV 6095
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI ACTION AGAINST AMOCO OPERATIONS IN GULF OF SUEZ
TAGS: PFOR, US, EG, IS, AMOCO
To: STATE CAIRO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006